



PROVOST'S REPORT

7 November for the period covering: 11
September - 29 October 2018

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of meetings and events attended by the Provost of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor Ian Clarkson.



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Since the last meeting of the Council I have attended various events throughout North Ayrshire.

Launch of the Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Programme, Irvine Royal Academy, 13 September

On 13 September, I attended the launch of the Police Scotland Youth Volunteer Programme. The programme aims to increase Police engagement with young people, breaking down barriers and promoting positive role models through regular training and participation in community safety initiatives and public events. The programme gives opportunities for our young people to discover their talents, develop skills for life and to make a positive contribution to their local community.

Presentation of the First Regimental Guidon, Redford Infantry Barracks, Edinburgh, 15 September

As a guest of the Scottish and North Irish Yeomanry, Councillor Miller and I attended the presentation of their first regimental Guidon on 15 September at Redford Infantry Barracks, Edinburgh. As Veteran's Champion I am always keen to attend events of this nature and show our support to those who have served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces.

School Visits, Irvine, 21 September

On the morning of 21 September, I visited Hayocks Primary School Breakfast Club where I met pupils and staff and got an insight into how the club operates and the benefits it brings to many. I then went along to Corsehill Primary School to formally congratulate pupils and staff on winning the "Best Garden" in the One Planet Picnic Awards and to learn a bit more about the project. Finally I visited Kilwinning Academy to formally congratulate the School on being awarded the LGBT Youth Bronze Charter mark and learn more about the excellent work carried out to achieve this.



Scottish Provosts' Association AGM, Dundee, 26 September

On 26 September, I attended the AGM of the Scottish Provosts' Association in Dundee. The main aims of the Association are:

- (a) To promote the image and dignity of Scottish Local Authorities
- (b) To advance the wellbeing of Scottish local democracy and the people of Scotland
- (c) To provide a forum for Civic Heads to pool their experiences
- (d) To facilitate training for and assist Civic Heads in their apolitical role and in particular to promote understanding of the differences in the respective roles of Civic Head and the Council Leader and other Council political appointees
- (e) To collaborate with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, the Scottish Government and other public and private bodies to promote and enhance the status of Local Government

The Association provides excellent networking opportunities and support to Provost's in Scotland.

National Day of the People's Republic of China Reception, Chinese Consulate, Edinburgh, 26 September

On the evening of 26 September, I attended a reception in the Chinese Consulate in Edinburgh marking National Day of the People's Republic of China. Events like these give the opportunity to promote North Ayrshire to a wider audience.

Macmillan Coffee Morning, Cunninghame House, 28 September

Once again our generous staff supported the "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. I hosted a coffee morning in Cunninghame House on 28 September raising nearly £300. Staff throughout North Ayrshire got involved by organising their own coffee mornings in support of this worthwhile cause. My thanks go to everyone for their support.

Ayrshire Hospice Autumn Ball, Seamill Hydro, Seamill, West Kilbride, 28 September

I was joined by Councillors Tom Marshall, Donald Reid and Donald L Reid at this year's Ayrshire Hospice Autumn Ball which took place in the Seamill Hydro on 28 September. Over £50,000 was raised on the night for the Hospice which provides wide ranging care services for those with life limiting illness.



Ayrshire Athletes' Celebration Event, Ayr Academy, Ayr, 29 September

On the afternoon of 29 September, I attended the Ayrshire Athletes' Celebration Event hosted by Ayrshire Sportsability. The event celebrated the achievements of disabled athletes from Ayrshire reaching podium level. The event gave an insight into what talented sportsmen and women we have here in Ayrshire and how they are supported to be all they can be.

Ayrshire Muslim Association - Grand Official Open Day, London Road, Kilmarnock, 29 September

I attended the Ayrshire Muslim Association's Grand Official Open Day in London Road, Kilmarnock on 29 September. I was given a tour of the facility and learned more about the Association and how it serves the community.

Gathering of Armed Forces and Veterans Champions, Edinburgh City Chambers, 1 October

On 1 October, I attended the gathering of Armed Forces and Veterans Champions in Edinburgh City Chambers. A keynote speech was given by Mr. Graeme Dey MSP, Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans. The main aim of the gathering was to provide a forum in which Armed Forces and Veterans Champions can consider how their organisations' obligations to the Armed Forces Covenant may be better delivered across Scotland.

Challenge Poverty Week, Various, 1-8 October

Challenge Poverty Week took place from 1-8 October. I was happy to be able to support the Leader of the Council on the many visits and events which took place throughout North Ayrshire during that time.

WestFM Cream of Ayrshire Awards, Park Hotel, Kilmarnock, 4 October

Councillors Murdoch and Larsen joined me at this year's West FM Cream of Ayrshire Awards which was held in the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock. This event recognises the groups and organisations in Ayrshire who go that extra mile and make a difference in our local communities.



Kirkin' of the Deacon Convener of Irvine Incorporated Trades, Old Parish Church, Irvine, 7 October

On 7 October, I attended the Kirkin' of the Deacon Convener of Irvine Incorporated Trade in the Old Parish Church in Irvine. Many local organisations took part in this event which is part of Irvine's culture and history.

Citizenship Ceremony, Saltcoats Town Hall, 10 October

On 10 October, I was joined by the Depute Lieutenant to welcome new UK citizens to North Ayrshire. From application stage to finally receiving UK Citizenship can be a long process and it was a pleasure to get the opportunity to congratulate them on completing this journey.

Go Purple for the Ayrshire Hospice, Cunninghame House, Irvine, 12 October

North Ayrshire went Purple on 12 October to raise funds for the Ayrshire Hospice. Approximately £900 was raised in Cunninghame House alone by our generous staff. Many of our schools also took part on what has become an annual fundraising event.

Irvine Bird Club Presentation, Volunteer Rooms, Irvine, 13 October

On 13 October I was invited to present Mrs Bert Reid with a Roll of Honour certificate from the National Council of Aviculture at the annual caged bird show in the Volunteer Rooms, Irvine. I am always inspired by the amount of work that goes on in our local communities by volunteers and only too happy to lend my support when I can.

Festival of Juvenile Solo Piping Competition, Auchendarvie Academy, 20 October

I was delighted to attend the Festival of Juvenile Solo Piping Competition in Auchendarvie Academy on 20 October. Over 200 young people entered and took part in five different chanter events and 16 piping events. Over 40 volunteers assisted with the event which is now firmly established in Scotland's piping calendar.

Irvine Incorporated Trades Annual Dinner "Big Pie", Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine, 27 October

Irvine Incorporated Trades 372nd Annual Dinner took place on 27 October in the Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine. This particular event is steeped in tradition and celebrates Irvine's cultural heritage.



Cyclocross, Irvine Beach Park, 28 October

On 28 October I was invited to present prizes at the Cyclocross Competition at Irvine Beach Park. The Scottish Cyclocross Association was formed by racers in 2007 in order to promote, strengthen and maintain the spirit of cyclocross racing in Scotland. It is excellent to see events of this calibre taking place in North Ayrshire.

Reception Consul General of Turkey, Edinburgh City Chambers, 29 October

I was one of many guests at a reception hosted by the Consul General of Turkey in Edinburgh. The event marked the 95th anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic and took place in Edinburgh City Chambers.

100th Birthdays and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries

The Depute Provost, the Lieutenancy of Ayrshire and I have visited the following people to congratulate them on their 100th Birthday or their Diamond Wedding Anniversary:

25 September – Mrs and Mrs Black from Kilbirnie, Diamond Wedding Anniversary

1 October – Mrs Strain from Irvine, 100th Birthday

11 October – Mrs Duncan from Irvine, 100th Birthday



Ian Clarkson

Councillor Ian Clarkson
Provost North Ayrshire Council